

FOR TOBACCO

● **HY GRO** for stronger plants and better roots

- **Fermate**
- **Bordo**
- **Duo Copper**
- **Agri-mycin**

- Garden Hose
- Scotts Products
- Lawn Sprinklers
- Chapin Sprayers
- Garden Seeds
- Fly Screening
- Picnic Supplies

GROFF'S HARDWARE

New Holland, Pa. Ph. 354-0851

NEW Dairy Supply Store

CHRISTIANA MILK PRODUCTS CO.

Christiana, Pa.

Largest Dairy Supply Store in the East.

- 20 different brands and sizes of filtering materials
- 25 different brands and sizes of detergents
- 20 sizes and shapes of brushes for milk house bulk tanks or pipe lines.

INFLATIONS

For Surge \$2.95 set
For DeLaval & others \$3.45 set

FRONT OPENING MILK CAN COOLING CABINETS BRAND NEW AND FULLY WARRANTED

Hundreds of items for milk house and farm, metalware, paints, etc.

CHRISTIANA MILK PRODUCTS CO.

Jim Mimm

(If you have in-place cleaning problems, we will be glad to test your water and suggest a sound cleaning program)

Water Bags Make Good Mulch, Researcher Says

Plastic bags filled with water and placed on the soil as a mulch improved vegetable yields by 20 percent on an experimental plot in Idaho, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports.

The water mulch cut down variations in soil temperature, absorbing some of the heat from the sun at midday and reducing heat loss from the soil at night. Most vegetables grow best within a fairly narrow range of soil temperatures, notes Sidney A. Bowers, soil scientist with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, who conducted the research. The Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station cooperated.

Bowers first tested his water mulch theory on uncropped soil. He found that the water bags reduced maximum temperature and increased minimum temperature in the half-inch of the upper soil's surface. At a depth of 4 inches, the bags raised both maximum and minimum temperatures.

Bowers then tried the new mulching idea on two heat-sensitive crops: sweet corn and string beans. He planted 12 plots of each vegetable, four mulched with water bags, four with plain strips of plastic, and four without mulch. Average yields for sweet corn were, re-

spectively, 28,000 pounds, 24,000 pounds, and 16,000 pounds per acre from the three treatments. Bean yields were 17,000 pounds, 14,000, and 9,000 pounds per acre.

The advantages of water mulch were best demonstrated during an unseasonable cold snap, Bowers said. One September day during the experiment, snow fell and air temperature dropped from the mid-40's to 24 degrees F. Minimum soil surface temperatures were 32 degrees F. on the unmulched plots, 36 degrees F. on the plots mulched with plastic strips, and 40.7 degrees F. on the water mulched plots. Bean plants on the unmulched and plastic-mulched plots froze down to the soil line; water-mulched beans froze only to the tops of the water bags—about four inches from the ground. Two weeks after the freeze, fresh beans were harvested from the water mulched plot.

Bowers used plastic bags made of 6-mil clear polyethylene, cut 12 feet long and two feet wide to fit between the rows on his 12 by 12-foot test plots. The bags were filled with enough water to swell them to a thickness of about four inches. The plastic-mulched plots were covered with strips of

the same clear polyethylene. Golden Beauty sweet corn and Garden Green bush beans were used in the experiment. 100 pounds of nitrogen per acre was disked into each plot prior to planting. Thermocouples were buried at varying depths in the plots to record soil temperature.


Water mulches would allow gardeners to plant early in the spring with less risk of frost damage, and should be especially useful in regions where temperature varies sharply during the growing season, scientists believe.

● Outstanding Seniors (Continued from Page 18)

home farm. He was cited at his high school's commencement exercises this week as the outstanding graduating agriculture senior, receiving the Elizabethtown Farm Women's award. He has served his FFA chapter as corresponding secretary. Although Clayton's main farming interest is dairy, his work experience program this year was spent in the employ of a local farm machinery dealer.

Our congratulations to all of these boys on their outstanding efforts during their agricultural schooling. College-bound, or farm-bound — good luck!

DEKALB[®] PROFIT PULLETS



Balanced Bred for Balanced Performance

DeKalb Layers are **BALANCED BRED** for the **SIX PROFIT FACTORS** that make for success in your poultry operations—High Livability—Longevity of Lay—High Egg Production—Top Interior Egg Quality—High Feed Efficiency—Superior Shell Strength and Proper Egg Size.



LIVABILITY



HIGH PRODUCTION

"DEKALB" is a Registered Brand Name. Numbers are Variety Designations.



FEED EFFICIENCY



LONGEVITY OF LAY

KEEP RECORDS AND YOU'LL KEEP DEKALB LAYERS



TOP INTERIOR EGG QUALITY




SUPERIOR SHELL STRENGTH - PROPER EGG SIZE

<p>Chix, Inc. 40 Donegal Springs Rd. Mt. Joy Phone 653-1102</p>	<p>DeKalb York Hatchery P. O. Box 265 Hellam Ph. 255-7741</p>
Sales & Service	
<p>Elmer Glick Smoketown 768-3962</p>	<p>Lester B. Good Ephrata 733-7671</p>

Lancaster Farming Classified Ads Get Results

FREE

analysis of your home oil-heating equipment. Our specially trained men will tell you if it needs cleaning, adjustment, or minor part replacement. They'll show you how to improve your burner with Texaco's new Jet Flame Booster that can increase burner efficiency up to 42%. Give us a call. No obligation.



We Give S & H Green Stamps

Garber Oil Co.

Texaco Fuel Chief Heating Oil
105 Fairview St.
MOUNT JOY, PA.
Ph. 653-1821